

sizable amount is increased. The alternative is we will not fund a great number of state agency operations, which are solely state responsibility, at the level that is necessary. We're dealing with.... Off the top of my head we've got probably not over \$5 million within the Appropriations Committee to cover about \$40 some million worth of items that you could consider as priority. There are going to be a great many priority needs that are not going to be met. My concern is that aid programs do not precede the necessary funding for an ongoing program that already are law. I can very easily support additional homestead exemption as I would very easily support additional state aid to schools for property tax. But when I do that I know that I will be triggering the rates for sales or income tax in order to accomplish it.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Well I guess my concern, Mr. President, then is that at some point in time we've got to make a decision on what and where we're going to spend or not spend. It would seem to me that we may or may not accept the Appropriation Committee's recommendation and proceed with some recommendations from the floor as this body sees fit. It would seem to me that the time for that decision is when we come to Final Reading. Even though this may have a bearing on what the Appropriations Committee is doing, or will be doing, that is their prerogative and their choice and why they are acting as an Appropriation Committee. If they don't see fit to take this amount of money into consideration in their report, then I think that will be to our defeat. Win or lose, we'll have to accept it then. I think we better proceed. Thank you.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Chair recognizes Senator George.

SENATOR GEORGE: Thank you, Mr. President and members, number one, I would like to point out, before you make up your mind, that Senator Keyes said that this bill has a price tag of \$26 million. I would like you to open up your bill book and look at 407A. It says there, or the pink fiscal note, you can look at either one of them. Both have the identical figures of \$2,875,632, not \$26 million. That is number one. Number two, as already mentioned, we know what kind of struggle is on the floor for a number of weeks. There is another bill in the Revenue Committee. Somebody wants to put it ahead of Senator Labeledz bill, which has been before us since last session. Number three, if anybody really is concerned that we couldn't possibly, this year, pay for that, fine, I agree with you. Let's keep 407A and hold it. That doesn't stop us from discussing 407 at all. How can you possibly want to make up your mind at the end of the session if we have to, and maybe we have to do that, which bills to pick first because we can't pay for all of them, unless you know what is in 407? I strongly urge you to continue and finally start debating 407. I think Senator Labeledz will probably also agree that we ought to hold LB 407A, as we have to do with all bills, until we finally know how much money we've got and which ones we have to pick, and what compromises we finally have to meet. I strongly urge you to continue now. Let's get going with LB 407.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, much has been said about 407 and now we must move ahead with 407 now and not discuss other bills. Basically, Senator Goodrich laid it all out on the table, as he said. The con-